GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3568
ANSWERED ON:10.09.2007
WIRELESS TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS
Yadav Shri Giridhari

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wireless telephone connections provided in the country specially in Bihar as on date, State-wise;

(b) the share of percentage the above number constitutes against the total number of the said connections in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve the quality of telephone services in the country, particularly in Bihar?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a)& (b) The number of wireless telephone connections provided in the country as on 31.07.2007 are 19,28,83,621 and in Bihar are 71,76,632. Circle/State-wise wireless connection as on 31.7.2007 is given in the Annexure.

Circle/State-wise share of percentage of the above number against total number of connection in country is also shown in the Annexure.

(c) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) regularly monitors the performance of mobile operators on the basis of the prescribed Quality of Service (QoS) parameters. Government, besides watching general performance with reference to QoS, facilitates service providers in addressing interconnection issues and also pursues matters for clearance of cell sites with local authority.

Steps proposed to be taken by BSNL to improve its services:

A Wireline Services:

(i) Replacement of under ground paper core cables by jelly filled cable in a phased manner.

(ii) Creation of pole less network.

(iii) Opening of more telephones exchanges (RSUs/RLUs) to reduce length of under ground cable.

(iv) Conversion of SBM into RLUs and CDOT 256 port exchanges into AN RAXs (Access Network Rural Automatic Exchanges).

(v) Provision of centralized computerized fault booking with IVRS (Integrated Voice Response System) for whole of SDCA (Short Distance Charging Area) at SDCC (Short Distance Charging Center).

(vi) Provision of maintenance free battery sets and engine alternators for back up power supplies.

(vii) Induction of digital line concentrators to reduce length of under ground cable and made available new facilities.

(viii) Provision of reliable media to all the telephone exchanges.

(B) WLL Service:

(i) BSNL (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited) has already deployed a large WLL network in the country. Out of 36.76 lakh lines WLL network, 30.29 lakh lines are deployed in rural areas to meet the demand for telephone connections from scattered and far flung remote rural areas. The network of WLL service is being expanded further to cover additional remote rural and far flung areas.

(ii) BSNL plans to provide umbrella coverage by providing up to three BTS in all SDCAs.

(iii) This large scale deployment of WLL network will facilitate provision of telephone connections on demand in rural areas.

(C) Mobile services:

(i) BSNL plans to cover all District Head Quarters on priority basis. It has also planned to cover all Tehsil Head Quarters and villages having a population of 5000 progressively during 2007-2008.

(ii) The future plan envisages augmentation of capacities to cover villages having a population of more than 1000 in the next three financial years progressively.

(iii) BSNL has already covered National Highways, State Highways and Railways Routes and Pilgrim centers by which a large number of rural villages are benefited with incidental cellular coverage of BSNL's Mobile Services.